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SOURCE SOVIET RADIO BROADCASTS

INTRODUCTION

The Soviet radio, from 1 September through the middle of November 1947, broadcast frequent reports, claims, and descriptions of regional achievements in specific phases of the Soviet agricultural effort, particularly regarding the 1947 "grain-procurement" program. Statements about overall achievements are in the main limited to such general claims as: "The State is receiving this year approximately as much grain as it was receiving in the best of the pre-war years. ... In the development of agriculture, a great boundary has been reached. ... (But) it must not be forgotten that the sown areas and the technical means to facilitate agriculture have not yet reached their pre-war levels." (Soviet Home Service, 21 November 1947)

On the other hand, the reports of regional accomplishments, while fragmentary, yield more specific data which have been consolidated in this report.

CONTENTS

THE GRAIN HARVEST AND GRAIN PROCUREMENT PROGRAM.....	2
Table 1. -- Areas Reporting Completion or Overfulfillment of 1947 Grain Delivery Plan.....	5
Table 2. -- Areas Reporting Specific Quantities in Overfulfillment of 1947 Delivery Plan.....	8
Table 3. -- Areas Reporting Specific Pledges in Excess of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan.....	9
UKRAINE ACHIEVEMENTS.....	10
SOVIET APPRAISAL OF CURRENT AND FUTURE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS.....	11
Table 4. -- Areas Praised or Criticized by PRAVDA for Phases of Agricultural Program.....	13
AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNIST DISCIPLINE.....	14
MISCELLANEOUS AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS.....	18

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- 2 -

135487

THE GRAIN HARVEST AND GRAIN PROCUREMENT PROGRAM

The Soviet radio glowingly describes this year's grain harvest, and the success of the State grain procurement program. Nearly all regions, and Republics are reported to have delivered large amounts of grain in excess of plan. Broadcasts, furthermore, give overwhelming emphasis to the improvement over the 1946 grain harvest. The third quarter (1947) report of the USSR Statistical Bureau of the State Planning Commission states that in 1947, grain crops exceeded the 1946 level by 55 percent.^{1/}

The total grain production for this year is nowhere announced. However, a clue is provided in a Moscow broadcast for North America, 12 November, which, using IZVESTIA as its source, states: "the State has received almost as much grain as was put aside in the best pre-war years." Earlier, a domestic broadcast of 22 October presents the total production for 1912 as 4 to 5 billion poods,^{2/} and "before the outbreak of World War II" as 7.3 billion poods.

Otherwise, the pattern of Soviet radio coverage of the grain procurement campaign lends support to estimates placing current Soviet grain production at a level somewhere below that achieved shortly before World War II. Beginning in September, and continuing in a diminishing degree to the present date, Soviet radios announce grain deliveries from the various regions and Republics, frequently in terms of the percent of above-plan fulfillment, or above the 1946 level for individual regions.^{3/} As is customary with regard to all aspects of their economy and culture, the Soviets invariably report favorable statistics. Statistics about underfulfillment of plan have not been revealed in monitored broadcasts, and no statistics have thus far been announced for those regions elsewhere criticized for lagging deliveries. In view of the avidity with which the Soviet radio seizes upon any comparisons that serve to maximize the appearance of Soviet successes, it is significant that out of a total of 45 regions and Republics for which reports have been monitored, only six, including three Ukrainian Provinces, are claimed to have exceeded or matched the pre-war level.

The Soviet radio does not provide specific information regarding the disposal or allocation of State grain procured from the 1947 harvest. The campaign for grain delivery is occasionally termed "the struggle for bread," but more frequently grain delivery is called simply "the duty to Stalin" or "the duty to the State." At the opening of the "grain-storage" campaign,^{4/} the Leningrad radio broadcast an article by Anikinov entitled: "The Fight for Bread is the Fight for Increasing our Fatherland's Wealth and Power," which states:

"On the enormous expenses of our great Fatherland, grain harvest and storage are in progress. On the good achievement of this most important political and agricultural campaign depend the country's wealth, high living standard, and food reserves. ... Wheat is the strength of our Socialist Government and of the Soviet Army."

"Kolkhoze workers must be told the political importance of the grain-storage program of this year. Every party member or leader must serve the interests of the State and fight the slightest attempt to sabotage grain storage or delivery of grain to the State. Stalin told us: 'You must not be distracted from the main problem. Storage

1/ Moscow reports to North America on 12 November, however, that "this year's grain harvest was 15 percent above last year's."

2/ One pood equals 36 pounds avoirdupois.

3/ The Soviet radio does not consciously reveal the total amount of grain to be allocated to the State under the procurement plan. Most broadcasts reflect an apparently strict system of censorship which operates to render the announced percentages meaningless as to actual total production or deliveries--at least as far as casual listeners are concerned. Occasionally, however, figures are broadcast which may be manipulated into presumed estimates of the total "grain fulfillment plan" for specific areas--although the available broadcast material itself provides no verification of either the reliability or validity of such estimates.

On 2 October, for example, Moscow announced that the Tambov Province of the RSFSR had fulfilled its grain plan by 101 percent, having delivered 3,212,000 poods in excess of plan. Thus, if it can be assumed that the referents of these two figures are the same, 3,212,000 poods would be equal to 1 percent, 110 percent (or the plan for 1947) would equal 321,200,000 poods, and the actual total "grain fulfillment" would equal 324,412,000 poods of grain.

4/ The distinction (if any) between the "grain-storage plan" and the "grain delivery plan" is not clarified in monitored broadcasts.

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00-F-36

135487

- 3 -

must be intensified, the first commandment being good accomplishment of wheat storage." (8 September 1947)

General descriptions of the benefits of the harvest sidestep the function of State grain stores. For example:

"A good harvest has been produced practically everywhere in the country. This makes it possible to complete the State grain procurement plan ahead of schedule, open the designated public funds in the collective farms, and increase the pay per collective farm work day...." (PRAVDA, 26 September 1947)

"The incomes of collective farm peasants this year, thanks to the good harvest, have increased considerably in comparison with last year. ... This year, every able bodied collective farm worker averaged from 300 to 350 workdays during the season, while crack collective farm workers number as many as 500 more workdays.

"The produce paid out for these workdays will not only be quite enough for personal requirements, but peasants will be able to sell part of them in town markets. On the 'Marx' farm in the Ukraine, every farm worker received 2.5 grams of bread per workday and much other produce. ... On the 'Stalin' collective farm in Uzbekistan, each member received 4 (kgs.) of grain, much butter, meat, tea, and considerable quantities of manufactured goods--the latter being in payment for the cotton given to the State." (TASS, in Russian at Dictation Speed to the Provincial Press, 11 November 1947)

In addition, the Soviet radio does not disclose the location of grain collecting centers or the ultimate destination of the stores thus accumulated. The extent of information monitored on this aspect of the procurement program is limited to the following typical description of the process:

"Ukrainian workers (in their letter to Stalin) state: 'We delivered our grain on time. As trucks and other means of transport were provided, these were taken to State stores. The grain was at the collecting centers on schedule and was thence taken away to its destination.'" (Kiev, in Ukrainian, 21 October 1947)

Nor is further information thus far to be gleaned from references to rail or river transport. Occasional mention is made of grain barges, but the direction of shipment is not disclosed.

While special emphasis is given to wheat production and procurement, the grain crops also mentioned in connection with the procurement program are corn, millet, and rye. The breakdown according to crops is nowhere given; but the frequency of general, non-statistical references to wheat production suggest that the Soviets are concentrating particularly on that crop in their program of overall expansion of grain-producing areas.

With regard to the expansion program itself, frequent references are made to increase in cultivated area since 1946. The total increase in the 1947 harvest area, however, is not clear due to conflicting statistics, listed below:

1947 Harvest Area Compared With 1946

8,000,000 more hectares^{1/}

6,000,000 more hectares

5,000,000 more hectares by 20 September

Broadcast Source

Leningrad, 8 September 1947

TASS, to the Provincial Press,
17 October 1947

TASS, to North America,
20 September 1947

Statistics are also given regarding the increases in area sown to winter crops in comparison to 1946. On 14 October, the USSR Statistical Bureau of the State Planning Commission reported that 3,800,000 more hectares had been seeded by 5 October. While the crops are unspecified here, a clue is provided in a Moscow broadcast the following day, which states that 3,800,000 more hectares have been sown to wheat and rye in the southern regions of the USSR, as compared with 1946. A Moscow broadcast for North America, 4 October, however, lists the total increase in seeded area over 1946 as

^{1/} One hectare equals 2.47 acres.

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00-F-36

- 4 -

135487

9,000,000 hectares. USSR Machine Tractor Stations, finally, are reported by PRAVDA (24 October) to have placed 32,600,000 more hectares under cultivation.

The following tables present the grain-procurement statistics for the individual regions of the USSR as announced in Soviet domestic broadcasts of September, October, and November, 1947.

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TABLE 1. -- Progress Reporting Completion or Overfulfillment of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan

RE-	DEGREE OF COMPLETION	DATE OF REPORT	INCREASE OVER 1946	NOTES
The RSFSR	100.0%	28 Oct.	12,564,000 pounds	No overall figures given for RSFSR as a whole
Chkalov	108.8% 1/	14 Oct.	76,644,000	Total plan completed 115%; vegetable plan completed 110.5%
Irkutsk	100.1%	29 Oct.		
Ivanovo	"Completed"	6 Oct.		
Kalinin	102.2%	26 Sept.		
Kalinin	100.03%	11 Oct.		
Kirov	100.7%	3 Oct.		
Krasnoyarsk	100.0%	17 Oct.	144,000,000	81,576,000 pounds more than in 1940
Kuibyshev	100.0%	31 Oct.	688,608,000	
Kursk	100.3%	30 Sept.		
Leningrad	100.0%	26 Sept.	7,668,000	Leningrad District completed plan by 102%
Meritima	"Completed" 2/	16 Oct.		
Molotov	100.3%	18 Oct.		
Orel	100.0%	21 Sept.		
Orsk	100.8%	3 Oct.		
Penza	128.0% 3/	13 Oct.	268,000,000	
Smolensk	101.1%	3 Oct.		
Stalingrad	100.4%	30 Sept.	14,760,000	Collective farms averaged 1,457 pounds per acre
Stavropol	"Completed"	22 Sept.		
Sverdlovsk	"Completed"	18 Oct.		
Tambov	101.0%	2 Oct.		
Tomsk	100.3%	5 Nov.	36,000,000	
Ulyanovsk	100.1%	16 Oct.	376,848,000	
Voronezh	100.04%	2 Oct.		
Yaroslavl	"Completed"	26 Sept.		
Bashkir ASSR	"Completed"	7 Oct.	360,000,000	
Chuvash ASSR	"Completed"	16 Sept.		
Kabardino-Balkarian ASSR	100.3%	5 Nov.	54,000,000	
Komi ASSR	100.2%	18 Oct.		
Mari ASSR	100.2%	23 Sept.	30,240,000	

1/Except where indicated, the figures refer to "grain deliveries," "grain plan," or "grain production" as reported by the Soviet radio; Soviet broadcasts rarely specify kinds of grain. The following conversion factors have been used for this and subsequent tables: 1 pood equals 36 pounds; 1 centner equals 110 pounds; 1 hectare equals 2.47 acres. (Note: 60 pounds of wheat equals 1 bushel.)

2/State Farm production.

3/Heist.

4/Heist and rye.

135487

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133 487

TABLE 1. (continued) Areas Reporting Completion or Overfulfillment of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF COMPLETION	DATE OF REPORT	INCREASE OVER 1946	NOTES
<u>The RSFSR (continued)</u>				
Mordovian	100.2%	30 Sept.	"Three times as much"	
North Ossetian	103.0%	29 Oct.	33,300,000 pounds	
Tatar	100.2%	2 Oct.	612,000,000 "	
Udmurt	100.1%	7 Oct.		
<u>Ukraine SSR</u>				
Chernigov (Province or Region)	100.3%	20 Oct.	11,682,000,000 "	Best wheat yields average 1,113-1,736 pounds per acre.
Dnepropetrovsk	100.0%	19 Sept.	183,683,952 "	
Kharkov	"Overfulfilled"	14 Oct.	72,000,000 "	432,000,000 pounds above best pre-war years; averaged 1,457 pounds per acre.
Kiev	100.0%	23 Sept.	220,000,000 "	"With Kiev, best deliveries to date"
Odessa	100.3%	20 Sept.	3,876,000 "	"Can compare grain crop with pre-war"
Poltava	100.5%	3 Oct.		
Rovno	100.1%	17 Sept.		
Strzhakiv	100.1%	28 Sept.		
Sunny	100.0%	4 Oct.	529,200,000 "	"Delivered as much grain as in 1940"
Transcarpathia	102.5%	25 Aug.	216,000,000 "	
Voroshilovgrad	"Completed"	15 Oct.		
Zhitomir	100.0%	20 Oct.		
<u>Belorussian SSR</u>				
Minsk	"Completed"	8 Oct.		
Brest-Litovsk	101.0%	19 Oct.	63,900,000 "	
Grodno	100.9%	12 Nov.	54,000,000 "	Grain harvest averaged 600 pounds per acre.
	107.4%		32,760,000 "	
<u>Karelo-Finnish SSR</u>				
	100.5%	14 Oct.		
<u>Estonian SSR</u>				
	"Overfulfilled"	3 Nov.		
<u>Lithuanian SSR</u>				
	"Completed"	28 Sept.		
<u>Lithuanian SSR</u>				
	"Completed"	11 Oct.		
<u>Lithuanian SSR</u>				
	100.0%	20 Aug.		
<u>Georgian SSR</u>				
	"Overfulfilled"			"Grain plan surpassed by thousands of pounds."

1/ State Farm production.

NOTE: No comparable figures given for the Armenian SSR or the Turkmen SSR.

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- 7 -

135487

TABLE 1. (continued) -- Areas Reporting Completion or Overfulfillment of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan

REF.	DEGREE OF COMPLETION, % of...	DATE OF REPORT	INCREASE OVER 1946	NOTES
<u>Azerbaijan SSR</u>	100.6%	16 Sept.		One collective farm averaged 1,093 pounds per acre; a 50% increase
<u>Kazakh SSR</u>	100.1%	29 Oct.	594,000,000 pounds	93,384,000 pounds more than in 1940
<u>Semipalatinsk Oblast (Province or Region)</u>	100.1%	2 Nov.		
<u>Dzhambul</u>	143.0%	19 Oct.		
<u>Kholmsk</u>	105.0% 1/	5 Nov.	73,800,000 "	"Best Province" in Republic
<u>Uzbek SSR</u>	"Completed"	11 Oct.	186,450,000 "	
<u>Surkhand</u>	"Completed"	1 Nov.	"twice as much"	
<u>Tashkent</u>	100.5%		8,814,480 "	
<u>Tadjik SSR</u>	100.7%	4 Oct.		
<u>Armenia SSR</u>	100.0%	3 Oct.		

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1/ Theat.

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- 8 -

T. BLY 2. -- reports reporting specific quantities in Overfulfillment of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan

AREA	EXCESS GRAIN DELIVERED	... as of ...	DATE OF REPORT	PERCENT. OF FULFILLMENT	... as of ...	DATE OF REPORT
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The Ref. Oblast (Province or Region)

Chelyabinsk	785,484 pounds	19 Sept.				
Krasnodar	9,000,000	12 Nov.				
Krasnoyarsk	36,000,000	17 Oct.				
Kurak	90,000,000	28 Sept.		100.3%		30 Sept.
Maritime	19,296,000	11 Nov.				
Orel	36,010,440	22 Oct.				
Ryazan	36,000,000	27 Sept.				
Smolensk	19,656,000	10 Nov.				
Tarbov	115,632,000	2 Oct.		101.0%		2 Oct.
Tula	90,000,000	28 Sept.				
Voronezh	324,000,000	2 Nov.				
Yaroslavl	36,000,000	28 Sept.				
Belorussian SSR						
Brest-Litovsk	54,000,000	5 Oct.				
Latvian SSR	190,008,000	14 Oct.				
Lithuanian SSR	30,670,000	29 Sept.				
Polish SSR	8,100,000	1 Oct.		100.5%		3 Oct.
Rumanian SSR	8,640,000	11 Oct.				
Soviet Union	12,600,000	15 Oct.				
Ukrainian SSR	36,000,000	3 Nov.				
Byelorussian SSR	3,060,000	19 Sept.		100.2%		19 Sept.
Belarusian SSR	6,300,000	3 Nov.				
Moldavian SSR	41,760,000	10 Nov.				
Armenian SSR	12,960,000	3 Nov.				
Azerbaijan SSR	22,204,800	10 Nov.				
Kazakh SSR	82,800,000	11 Oct.		100.1%		29 Oct.

1/Quantities are those reported by the Soviet radio to be in excess of the 1947 plan for "grain deliveries"; except where specified, kinds of grain are not reported.

2/ Later broadcast (3 Nov.) reports 9,640,000 pounds in excess but does not specify whether or not this figure is over and above that reported on 28 September.

3/ Later broadcast (7 Nov.) reports 9,864,000 pounds in excess of plan but does not specify whether or not this figure is over and above that reported on 26 September.

4/ Later broadcast (5 Oct.) reports 36,000,000 pounds of wheat delivered in excess of plan.

5/ "hect."

6/ Later broadcast (3 Nov.) reports that "in all, 38,806,700 pounds were turned over to the State."

135447

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00-F-36

- 9 -

TABLE 3. -- Areas Reporting Specific Pledges^{1/} in Excess of 1947 Grain-Delivery Plan.

135487

<u>AREA</u>	<u>PLEDGED EXCESS</u>	<u>DATE OF RE- PORTED PLEDGE</u>
<u>The RSFSR</u>		
Chkalov Oblast (Province or Region)	54,000,000 pounds ^{2/}	14 Oct.
Grozny "	3,600,000 "	3 Oct.
Kuibyshev "	25,300,000 "	30 Sept.
Ulyanovsk "	21,600,000 "	27 Oct.
Veliki Luki "	19,800,000 "	11 Oct.
Bashkir ASSR	54,000,000 "	7 Oct.
Birobikan AR	3,600,000 "	17 Sept.
Buryat-Mongolian ASSR	21,600,000 "	7 Nov.
Chuvash ASSR	18,000,000 "	27 Sept.
Tatar ASSR	108,000,000	19 Sept.
<u>Ukraine SSR</u>		
Zhitomir Oblast (Province or Region)	7,200,000 "	27 Oct.
<u>Latvian SSR</u>		
	22,000,000 "	30 Sept.
<u>Uzbek SSR</u>		
Samarkand Oblast (Province or Region)	14,400,000 "	7 Nov.
<u>Tadzhik SSR</u>		
	54,000,000 "	5 Oct.

^{1/} This table includes those areas reported as having pledged to deliver a certain quantity of grain in excess of plan, but whose fulfillment or non-fulfillment of pledge has not yet been reported in monitored Soviet broadcasts. It was felt, however, that the pledges warranted a separate table in view of the Control Commission established by the Communist Party of the USSR in March 1947 which provides for "continuous check on competition results."

^{2/} Pledged by collective farms.

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OO-F-36

- 10 -

135487

UKRAINE ACHIEVEMENTS

"The Ukraine, as is well known, is one of the principle agricultural regions of the country. It is enough to recall that in the pre-war years, it raised one-fourth of the entire Soviet Union grain crop and 70 percent of the Union's sugar."

This quotation from a PRAVDA editorial, "The Ukraine Has Fulfilled the Grain Procurement Plan Before the Deadline," broadcast by the Soviet Home Service on 12 October 1947, indicates the importance accorded by the Soviets to this year's Ukrainian agricultural production and underlines the significance of innumerable prior broadcasts directing "self-criticism" and exhortations to the Ukraine's rural population.

Assessing the final results of the Ukraine's 1947 efforts, the above-quoted PRAVDA editorial considers that since the Ukraine was "devastated in such a barbarous manner,.... if today the Ukraine reports the pre-term fulfillment of the State grain procurement plan, this can only mean that the agriculture of the Ukraine Republic again firmly stands on its feet, that the Ukraine's Bolsheviks have achieved a spectacular success in carrying out the historical decision of the February Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party and Comrade Stalin's directives. Such praise, repeated frequently since 12 October, is a far cry from PRAVDA's earlier (9 August) reminder that "in the Ukraine, until recently the organization for crop harvesting and grain deliveries suffered from grave defects."

The Ukraine's success, says PRAVDA (12 October) is "first of all, the result of the tremendous assistance extended by the Soviet State, the Bolshevik Party, and personally by Comrade Stalin, to the collective and Soviet farms of the Ukraine. In a year difficult for the Ukraine, the Soviet State gave generous aid to the peasants. It directed to the Ukraine a lavish stream of foodstuffs and of seeds, thousands of new machines. This State aid became the powerful springboard which launched the Ukrainian farmers to victory. The Ukraine's example shows what great successes may be achieved when Party organizations launch millions of people on the task of overcoming difficulties in the conquest of a rich harvest."

Although the tables on pages 6, 8, and 9 give most of the relevant Ukraine agricultural statistics culled from Soviet broadcasts, the following are also worth noting:

Cultivated area has reached 82 percent of the pre-war level.

"Tractor and other agricultural machinery operations (were carried out) over an area greater by 30 million hectares than last year's."

"The Kharkov Region... delivered to the State 12 million more poods of grain than it had delivered in the most prosperous pre-war years."

The plan for sowing winter wheat has been accomplished by 108.6 percent. "The Ukraine has sown 1,272,000 acres of winter wheat than it did last autumn." (It is also reported that "the sown area of 1947 is 8 million hectares greater than ever before.")

RESTRICTED

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OO-F-36

- 11 -

135487

SOVIET APPRAISAL OF CURRENT & FUTURE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Along with the collection of grain, Soviet radios give attention to the procurement of sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables, cotton, flax and sunflower seeds, butter, milk, and the development of the livestock industry. Finally, preparations for winter seeding and the spring harvest round out the picture of Soviet agricultural programs for the fall months of 1947.

Soviet evaluation of these programs, found mainly in PRAVDA, provides information about the actual performance of assigned agricultural tasks. The pattern of these editorial criticisms is invariable. A eulogy to the greatness of the Soviet system, as illustrated by overall success in a given program, introduces a warning to regions where assignments have not been handled satisfactorily. It is worth noting that "Party officials" are generally held responsible for failures; only in rare instances are the farmers themselves criticized.

a. Grain Procurement and the 1948 Grain Crop: PRAVDA states on 17 October that the success of the grain procurement program was "indisputable," and that "the program for the post-war upswing of the agricultural economy," as outlined by the February plenum of the Communist Party is being realized." While "party officials" in the Omsk, Novosibirsk, and Kurgan regions of Siberia are denounced for "complacency" as evidenced by deliveries "seriously behind plan," the general tone of this and other references to grain procurement is one of satisfaction.

The Party organ's criticism of the fulfillment of the winter sowing plan, particularly of wheat, however, is more severe. Several regions are criticized for lagging. Further, PRAVDA reveals that "the most important plenum instruction, is not being carried out.... In a number of districts, the area assigned for winter wheat cultures is being planted to different cultures." The areas cited in this instance include the Ukraine, Kuban, Stavropol, Rostov, Crimea, Voronezh, Kursk, and Moldavia. (27 September 1947)

Evidence of indifference to preparations for next year's crop is also found in connection with the creation of reserve seed funds.^{1/} Reserve seed funds, PRAVDA explains, are to be created by every farm "in the amount of 10 to 15 percent of the estimated needs, in accordance with the agricultural artel statute." However, several regions, including those previously praised for outstanding grain deliveries, have failed to establish funds. If this negligence continues, PRAVDA warns, these areas will be penalized, for only those "which secured their own seeds, without resorting to Government seed loans, shall be considered as having successfully realized their grain-procurement and other agricultural plans." A still more serious violation of Party instructions is uncovered in PRAVDA's concluding remarks on this subject: "Every kilogram of the seed reserve is designated for sowing purposes only. There is evidence... that the seed funds are often improperly used. Those guilty of doing that, as well as persons instigating such acts, must be called to account. Such is the immutable Soviet law which safeguards the interests of the collective farms." (26 September 1947)

Finally, in connection with fallow-plowing and crop rotation, PRAVDA reveals another instance of inadequate long-range planning: "The collective farms of the country have done a little more fallow-plowing than last year, but the plowing tempos cannot in any way be considered satisfactory. ... In a number of districts, crop rotation is delayed through the shortage of perennial grass seeds, whereas the collective farms could have secured their own grass seeds. The trouble is that insufficient attention is paid to the mowing... of grass. This results in an enormous waste of seeds." (27 September 1947)

b. Milk and Butter Procurement: The fulfillment of milk and butter delivery schedules, PRAVDA remarks, "occupies a most important place" in the Party's program "to speed up the production of mass consumption goods, so as to raise the living standard of the workers." The organ notes with special satisfaction that "among the regions which have fulfilled this program in an exemplary manner, are found regions whose farm economy had been barbarously devastated by the German aggressors." But, "while, in the country as a whole, the butter deliveries are considerably ahead of similar deliveries in 1946," PRAVDA reveals a weakness in Communist discipline: "An appeasing attitude towards persons who violate the State discipline has led to the Vladimir region being now among the last in respect to milk and butter procurement. Here and there, attempts are made to side-step

1/ In August, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party issued a decree liquidating the State Seed Fund and instructed Party members to make certain that reserve seed funds are created in every collective farm. (See SURVEY OF USSR RADIO BROADCASTS, 15 August 1947, No. 8, p. H 5.)

RESTRICTED

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10-1-35

- 12 -

135487

milk and butter deliveries by substituting for these products others, less valuable."

PRAVDA orders local officials to correct this condition by conducting "a check in every farm (as to) how milk and butter deliveries are being made, to stop the squandering of milk brought in from collective and state farms, to increase the control over the activities of State procurement organs, and to enforce the tax-paying discipline among the persons who deliver milk." (27 October 1947)

c. Livestock Breedings: "Winter is approaching. The most important period for the livestock breeders is coming," PRAVDA reminds on 14 October. "The failure to fulfill the livestock-breeding plans by one or another station may be ascribed mainly to the failure to provide the necessary conditions for wintering the stock." In the editorial from which it is quoted, PRAVDA indicates the emphasis given to livestock breeding in Communist agricultural planning: "Recently, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR established high awards for the workers of the industry. By this act, the Soviet Government proved that the livestock industry is one of the decisive, vital branches of the national economy." That the industry as a whole is still behind pre-war levels, however, is explicitly recognized: "The February Plenum of the Communist Party... outlined plans (which) contain a broad program for the restoration and the further development of the socialist livestock industry." ... In 1948, the pre-war level... must be reached and surpassed." In addition, "it must be stated frankly that in a number of regions the livestock industry is still in the stage of a second-class industry. As a result, they are definitely lagging behind the general level of development achieved by the industry as a whole." "Daily propaganda" among livestock workers is ordered as part of the overall campaign to "popularize" the government awards.

d. The Cotton Crop: Cotton pickers of Uzbek and Kazakh are reminded that October is a "decisive" month in the program for "upswing" in cotton production. The cotton harvest this year is "fine," PRAVDA says, according to a 4 October Moscow broadcast; in Uzbek, the "main cotton-growing Republic," it is "as good as the outstanding cotton crop of 1941." As usual, however, PRAVDA notes that party officials are negligent in their organization of the cotton-picking work. "The tempo of cotton-picking in the (Uzbek) is intolerably slow." Leaders failed to "mobilize reserves" and thereby neglected preparation for late-ripening plants. For these same reasons, "Kazakhstan, too, is lagging behind." In order to overcome the lag and catch up with the work that was done, PRAVDA orders "a five-day collection campaign for the picking and delivery of the raw cotton.... To prevent loss and spoilage of raw cotton, work must be organized in such a manner that all the picked cotton is immediately rushed to the State delivery centers."

e. Potato and Vegetable Procurements: Among the faults PRAVDA finds in the vegetable procurement program are "numerous instances" of waste because of negligence. Collective farmers are guilty of leaving the vegetables too long in the fields, where they are endangered by frost; rural administrators neglected to provide storage space; and machine tractor stations failed to provide transportation. Railway managers, finally, are criticized for failing to provide enough cars, or for sending such poor cars that they cannot be used. (30 September 1947)

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- 18 -

**TABLE 4. -- Areas Praised or Criticized by PRAVDA
for Specific Phases of Agricultural Program**

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* Praise
- Criticism

AREA	AGRICULTURAL PHASE						
	Grain Delivery	Seed Fund	Cotton Delivery	Butter & Milk Deliv.	Livestock Development	Fallow-plow- ing; crop rotation	Winter Sowing
RSFSR							
Cheliabinsk		-			-		
Kaluga						-	
Kurgan	-						
Kursk	*	-		*			-
Kostroma				-			
Krasnoyarsk	*				*	-	
Moscow						*	
Novosibirsk	-					-	
Omsk	-	-					
Orel		-		*			
Penza						-	
Rostov							-
Ryazin						-	
Smolensk		-					
Stavropol							-
Tambov						-	
Tula						-	
Vologda				-			
Voronezh	*	-		*			-
Yaroslavl				- 1/			
Crimea ASSR							-
Ukraine SSR	*			-			
Belorussian SSR	*	-					-
Karelo-Fin. SSR	*			*			-
Estonian SSR	*						
Latvian SSR	*			*			
Moldavian SSR	*						
Georgian SSR	*						-
Armenian SSR	*						
Azerbaijan SSR	*			*			
Kazakh SSR	*		-	*			
Uzbek SSR	*		-				
Tadzhik SSR	*						
Kirghiz SSR	*			*	*		

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- 14 -

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AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNIST DISCIPLINE

Some of the most graphic illustrations of the importance accorded grain collection (as well as food collection programs in general) in Soviet planning are to be found in the variety of disciplinary measures that are used to ensure the delivery and storage of the State's full quota of farm produce. Simultaneously with reported widespread agricultural successes, domestic broadcast material indicates that the Party is still meeting with a certain amount of recalcitrance and non-cooperation from segments of the rural population, and that, in addition, the bureaucracy attached to the collective farms has not operated with desired dispatch and efficiency in promoting achievements of Moscow's objectives. These indications are especially evident in broadcasts emanating from local Soviet transmitters and addressed to regional Soviet audiences.^{1/}

To counteract this recalcitrance, apathy, and bureaucracy, the Party has used and is using four main tactics: (1) rigid enforcement of existing regulations, and extension of legislative regulation; (2) creation of new control bodies, both Party and non-Party; (3) reorganization of rural leadership; and (4) constant use of propaganda and the establishment of individual and group incentives for high achievement.

a. The Agricultural Artel Statute: Early in September, as the grain procurement program got under way, the Soviet press and radio issued thinly-disguised warnings to all agricultural workers and supervisors in the form of reminders of the penalties for violation of the agricultural artel statute. The function of the statute is explained as follows:

"The artel statute (is) the fundamental law of the social structure in the village. (It) determines the objectives and tasks of the agricultural artel, ownership and use of the land by the collective farms indefinitely, and the regulations governing the administration of the artel. Clearly expressed in the statute is the socialist principal coordinating the interests of the collective farmers with those of the people as a whole and the State. ... The statute is the immutable law of the collective farm life, and no violation of it will be tolerated by our State, as the violation of the statute hampers the cause of socialist construction." (Khabarovsk, 19 September 1947)

Listeners are reminded that in September 1946, following disclosure of "flagrant violations" of the statute at that time, the Communist Party and the USSR Council of Ministers tightened the statute still further by issuing decrees which "gave the necessary instructions on the preservation of agricultural property and wealth." (Poltava, in Ukrainian, 4 September 1947) In addition, a "Council for the Affairs of the Collective Farms, under the Government of the USSR" was created "with a view to the establishment of firm control over the agricultural artel statute." (Khabarovsk, 19 September 1947)

b. Past and Present Violations of the Artel Statute: An illustration of Communist disciplinary action is given in a Moscow broadcast of 9 September 1947 which, in its description of reforms accomplished in Kuliyshev since September, 1946, carries an implicit warning to any region which fails to complete the 1947 grain procurement plan:

"The Stavropol district, the largest in the Kuliyshev region, had a poor reputation. In the attempt to justify their poor showing, the local leaders were shifting the blame to 'weak cadres,' 'lack of peasant carts,' etc. ... Instead of strengthening the collective farms, the local district leaders

1/ The regional Soviet radio at Ismail, broadcasting primarily to listeners in the territory "liberated" from Rumania and now incorporated in Ismail Province, Ukrainian SSR, is particularly noteworthy in this respect. Monitored broadcasts studded with warnings and threats referring to such things as the need for "reenforcing discipline," the "shameful lagging behind of our Province" in the grain-delivery plan, and "reports reaching us that peasants harvest unripe corn" suggest considerable difficulties in meshing this "liberated" area into the Soviet scheme of things. Occasionally, individual "comrades" are singled out for admonition; as, for example, the two who "created difficulties and refused to loan their carts for collective work. They also refused to obey Regional Committee orders. These men preferred to use their carts for transport of passengers. This must and will be punished. Instructions are strict as regards the use of carts for transport of the harvest and must be obeyed to the letter."

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- 15 -

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engaged in pilfering their properties and failed to prevent a variety of other abuses."

The district leadership was accordingly punished:

"But great changes have taken place in the district within the past year. The Party organization have done much toward the elimination of statute violations. The lands, properties, and cattle... taken from the collective farms unlawfully, have been returned to them; the democratic foundations for the administration of the artels have been established; the statute violators have been relieved of their posts and severely punished."

Party members are placed in strategic positions:

"Occupying an average place in the region early in the year, the district has fought its way upward and is now in the front ranks. The district Party Committee (decided) that the majority of Communist collective farmers are to be distributed in the most (backward) sections.... It was decided to place the Communists in the sectors where the fate of the harvest is determined. This made it possible to strengthen the existing primary Party organizations and create additional ones in 13 collective farms. Labor discipline in the collective farms has become more rigid and absenteeism became less frequent. The backward collective farms were put under special surveillance by the Party...."

The same measures, PRAVDA reveals on 19 September 1947, were also necessary in other unidentified regions. In its description of reforms accomplished "for the benefit" of collective farmers, the Party organ implicitly confirms non-Soviet reports to the effect that a parasitic bureaucracy had tended to develop in Soviet collective farms:

"In one year, collective farms have received back 5,780,000 hectares of common land, 44,500 draught cattle, 45,000 horned cattle, 123,000 other livestock, and large sums of money. 496,000 people of the surplus administrative and service personnel have been dismissed. In addition, 203,000 people with no connection to collective farm production were taken off pay. Much has been done to restore the democratic foundations of the collective farm administration."

Turning to the present scene, PRAVDA and other sources quoted over the Soviet radio give evidence that "corruption" and mismanagement within collective farms and local party organizations is still serious enough to require attention from Moscow. The following excerpts describe current conditions:

"It would be harmful and uncalled for to abate the struggle against violation of the statute. Facts tell that the struggle has not been completed everywhere. There are still cases, and not individual cases at that, in which working days are irregularly spent, where collective farm lands are carelessly guarded, and internal farm democracy neglected. It must be remembered that this is not a short-term campaign, but a daily observance of the requests placed upon us. Violation must be prevented not only now but in the future." (PRAVDA, 19 September 1947)

"Many collective farms do not keep books to account for the grain and this provides numerous loopholes for its disappearance in a variety of directions." (PRAVDA, 14 September 1947)

"There are still more people... who are not averse to making money out of national property. There are still some heads of factories, collective farms, and co-operatives who fail to treat socialist property with due care. The struggle against individualist, anti-social tendencies, against a selfish attitude to the State and commonly owned property is of particularly great importance, now that the Soviet people is working on the new Five-Year Plan. 'To be tolerant of theft and graft,' said Stalin, 'whether used against the State, collective farm, or cooperative property--to hoodwink such counter-revolutionary monstrosities means to help undermine the Soviet order.'" (PRAVDA, 1 October 1947)

"All damage to crew or kolkhoze property must be punished according to our statutes. A working day wrongly employed, sabotage of material, theft, or attack against the democratic character of our organization, are considered great offenses. ... Every breach of statute must be punished. This must be particularly stressed to agricultural crews." (Poltava, in Ukrainian to the Ukraine, 4 September 1947)

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- 16 -

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c. Communist Control Groups and Party Activities: Over and above the measures adopted with reference to the artel statute, the Party has further strengthened its control over agricultural production through a commission which supervises collective farm competitions and which is "held responsible for holding of pledges and competition terms." As described by Radio Ismail, 16 September, the "Central Control Commission decided in March 1947 to create control commissions so as to have a continuous check of competition results." Such commissions "comprise the collective and state farms, and regional departments of an agricultural character."

Party members are regularly instructed to implement Party decisions through propaganda. Also, in addition to "popularizing" or "explaining" Government programs to the workers, Party members are utilized in setting standards of productivity. During the grain procurement campaign, for example, broadcasts frequently cite the "outstanding" achievements of individual Party members, or of individual Party members, or of individual Party crews.

d. Miscellaneous Regulations Governing Collective Farms: A question and answer program broadcast by the Soviet transmitter at Ismail illustrates the net of regulations which circumscribes, down to minute details of routine work, the actions of Soviet farmers. And with reference to the development of an agricultural bureaucracy, this program, quoted in full below, is of particular interest:

"Question: Which is the correct way to sow grain cultures on individual lots?

Answer: Article Two of Agrocrew statutes specifies that sowing is discouraged on such lots which should be used for specific Kolkhoze purposes. The Kolkhoze's general aim is the increase of agricultural production and distribution of corn sufficiency per working day. Free spaces like individual lots should be left for vegetable gardening and orchards. The decision of the Sovnarkom (Council of People's Commissars) and of the Bolshevik Party Committee specify delivery of harvest produce; potatoes should be delivered according to the sowing program (and) proportionally to surface and number of individual lots. (Decisions of April 11-16, 1940).

"Question: May Kolkhozes, which possess small individual lots, ask for an increase of output of other lots for Kolkhozes' particular purposes?

Answer: This may be done by repartition of lots so as to re-establish normal surface allotted to such purpose by Agrocrew Law. Such rearrangement is independent of the number of workers or peasants in the Kolkhoze; no interference with collective wealth will be tolerated.

"Question: If the Kolkhoze grounds comprise buildings constructed by different organizations, may Kolkhozes demand purchase of such buildings?

Answer: When a Kolkhoze-owned lot is returned to the Kolkhoze after having been used for a certain time by other organizations, the purchase of constructions on that lot may be negotiated. If negotiations fail, buildings must be demolished by the organization which constructed them.

"Question: What are surface provisions for lots to be granted to tractor-drivers, doctors, and specialists working and living (in the) Kolkhoze as well as to Agronomes and... attached to the Kolkhoze? How is the fund of individual lots influenced by this distribution?

Answer: Under the 1945 Sovnarkom decision, veterinaries, doctors, tractor-drivers, agronomes and specialists are entitled to 25 hectares, including housing surface. This lot is granted from the Kolkhoze lot fund. If the lot includes pasture, or surface habitually used for corn culture, permission must be obtained from Soviet Ministries and will be granted only in special cases.

"Question: May invalid Kolkhoze members and old folk be drafted for active work, particularly on individual lots, to achieve the minimum working norm?

Answer: Invalids and old folk still capable of work may be employed on individual lots. Old folk, over sixty, and invalids of first and second categories must not be evicted from Kolkhozes and may work if they wish and are fit. Working day norms are only demanded from able-bodied Kolkhoze members.

"Question: May Kolkhozes lend hayfields to other Kolkhozes?

Answer: Hayfields may be loaned to other Kolkhozes for mowing under the June 1947 decision of the Sovnarkom. Permit concerns only unused fields. A loan can be granted only to Kolkhozes needing hay and after general discussion by Kolkhoze workers and with the Regional Committee's approval. Government enterprises and Kolkhozes can receive such aid under the above Ministerial Council decision and through decision of Kolkhoze workers' meetings.

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- 17 -

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"Question: Is a Kolkhoze allowed to exact payment for use of pastures by neighbor Kolkhozes?

Answer: The Sovnarkom and the Bolshevik Party's Central Committee decided at the June 22, 1939 meeting that Kolkhozes and Government enterprises should allow cattle grazing on their pastures following definite agreement with neighboring enterprise. Payment should be agreed upon and should be used for upkeep and irrigation expenses of pastures.

"Question: Are children of Kolkhoze workers--under 21-- and children under tutorship entitled to individual lots?

Answer: If a certain Kolkhoze family consists solely of children under 21, Kolkhoze must allot them an individual lot. This may be done under the supervision of local and district committees or of educational committees.

"Question: Are Kolkhoze authorities empowered to diminish lots assigned to families, especially in cases of people unfit for work?

Answer: Lots will remain distributed according to their abilities. Such is the decision of the Central Party Committee of May 27, 1939. Kolkhoze authorities can take decision only at the general meeting when a member, who has failed to complete his assigned work through laziness or similar reasons, will be definitely expelled from the Kolkhoze. The meeting must include minimally two-thirds of the crew members to have a quorum.

"Question: Can expelled members receive individual lots?

Answer: Expelled Kolkhoze workers cannot hope to receive any surface or individual lot from the fund."

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- 18 -

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MISCELLANEOUS AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

The following Soviet radio broadcast excerpts are included because of their pertinence to current and future Soviet agricultural projects and programs.

a. Research and Experimentations

"On the Kola peninsula on the shores of Lake Imandra the polar section of the all-Union Horticultural Institute is conducting fruitful experiments on a large scale. ... Much experimental and practical work has been done in Polar agriculture. The scientific workers of this station together with the founder, Academician Bikhfeld, have proved the possibility of agriculture in the far north in spite of the assertions to the contrary of the bourgeois scientists. During the last 24 years this station has produced and stabilized a new species of frost-resisting and quick-ripening potato plants yielding an abundant harvest of cabbage, carrots, radishes, beets, various grasses and cereal plants. New methods of cultivating the big regions and the sandy soil in the Arctic have been successfully evolved. Seeds of these new plants are now being distributed for crop cultivation throughout the province of Murmansk and Archangel to the Komi ASSR, to Kamchatka, and to other points in the Arctic. The collective and state farms of the Murmansk Province have during the spring of this year established nurseries for soft fruit-bearing plants such as currants, raspberries, and strawberries. ... It is expected that the cereal crop will yield this year not less than 90 poods per hectare and potatoes 30 tons per hectare." (Soviet Home Service, 3 September 1947)

"In view of the extension of its activities, the Academy of Agricultural Sciences has announced new vacancies for members and corresponding members. Its vice president, Vassile Mossolov, told a TASS reporter. In connection with the extension of the Academy's work, 39 new regular members and 60 corresponding members will be added to its present composition. Scientific research will cover a still wider range of agricultural problems. The Academy of Agricultural Sciences, founded in 1929, is the highest research institution in this field. It has twelve research institutes headed by prominent Soviet scientists..." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 10 October 1947)

"The USSR Ministry of Agriculture has established a new research station for perennial crops in the Kuban Valley. Its director, Professor Alexander Derzhavin, has been working in this sphere for 17 years. The perennial rye developed by Professor Derzhavin for 3 years running has been yielding 14 centners per hectare on collective farms of the Stavropol territory. Professor Derzhavin has also developed a perennial wheat hybrid. Now he is developing perennial oil and fibre crops. The establishment of the experimental station will make it possible to expand this work considerably." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 18 October 1947)

"The USSR Ministry of Agriculture is setting up on the basis of the best machine-tractor stations of the USSR 26 exemplary and experimental machine-tractor stations. They will introduce in the collective farms the experiences of Soviet agricultural science. They will be equipped with the best machines. Experiments will be continued with the help of scientific research institutes and experimental agricultural centers. Complete mechanization of all field works will be introduced. The exemplary and experimental machine-tractor stations will be set up in the Northern Caucasus, in the Volga area, in Siberia, in the central areas of the RSFSR, in the Crimea, in the Ukraine, in Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kirghizia, and Armenia. These machine-tractor stations will become centers of advanced agriculture and will set an example to all collective and state farms in achieving high and stable harvests of all crops." (TASS, in Russian at dictation speed to the USSR provincial press, 25 October 1947)

b. Irrigation:

"By decision of the Soviet Government, within the next 5 or 6 years about one million hectares of new forests will be planted by the collective and state farms of the central Russian belt. This measure is designed to increase the crop yields in the main grain-growing centers of the Soviet Union--the Orel, Kursk, Voronezh and Tambov regions--which within the last 54 years were 12 times stricken with draught. The forest belts will protect the rivers and lakes from drying up and the fields from dry winds, and in winter time will help to retain snow on the fields. Along with the planting of new forests, a program of construction of artificial lakes and irrigation systems has been launched here. In the next 5 or 6 years, 575,000 hectares in these regions will have artificial irrigation." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 27 October 1947)

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- 19 -

"Great artificial irrigation works were carried out this year in the Latvian Soviets. The irrigation network, destroyed by the Germans, has been reestablished over 90,000 hectares. Furthermore, 25,000 hectares of pasture have been recovered." (Moscow, in Spanish, 30 September 1947)

"Work is in progress in Belorussia for the draining of 30,000 hectares during the present year. Four provinces of the Republic have already completed their annual assignments of drainage work. Lands recently drained and worked by collective farms have produced during the present year abundant harvests." (Soviet Home Service)

"The USSR and RSFSR Ministries of Agriculture are embarking on carrying out in practice the plan approved by the Government for organizing irrigation in the central blacksoil provinces, those of Karak, Voronezh, Orel, and Tambov. By (1950) there will be irrigated here 575,000 hectares of land. By the end of the Five-Year Plan, irrigation will be completed on an area of 472,000 hectares.in the valleys of the numerous small rivers of the central Russian uplands, several thousand reservoirs will be created from which water will be fed to collective farm fields by pumps and other hydraulic instruments.... Apart from the many minor irrigation systems of the collective farms, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture will construct a number of major installations in the central blacksoil zone." (Soviet Home Service)

"A sixty-kilometer irrigation canal... completed in Stavropol region.... It will permit reclaiming of 100 thousand hectares of land in Krasnodar and Stavropol regions." (Soviet Home Service, 26 August 1947)

"The state irrigation engineers working in the Kura Arak Valley have completed their capital construction works. Thousands of hectares have been drained and are under cultivation by collective farms. New irrigation canals stretching for 60 kilometers have been completed. Two new machine-tractor stations have been established and houses for the workers and farm buildings have been completed. A new hydroelectric power station has been established on the River Kura. By the end of the year, over 300 canal locks will be complete and another 1,000 hectares of land will be drained. Similar works are in progress in the northern areas of the Mudan steppes. One hundred kilometers of irrigation canals are being completed, and 'Kirov' will be enlarged by 4,000 hectares of fertile land." (Soviet Home Service, 3 September 1947)

"The centuries old hope of the Uzbek people for adequate irrigation is about to become a fact. Next year, some 250,000 acres of cotton plantations in the Bukhara and Samarkand regions will receive five times as much water as this year." (Soviet Home Service, 15 September 1947)

"Moscow, September 12--Large scale work is conducted in the USSR for reclamation of new lands for agriculture. Thousands of hectares of swamps are converted into fields, orchards and plantations. This year over 1,000 peasant families will move to reclaimed territory of the Colchis lowlands in Georgia. In Belorussia, several big war-ruined melioration networks have been restored this year, and 50,000 hectares of swamps drained once more. Next year these lands will be planted to orchards and grains. Four million hectares of marshy lands are to be drained within 15 years in Belorussia. This year, reclamation of Danube lowlands will be completed and over 30,000 hectares will be used for sowing. About 1,000 hectares of swamps have been reclaimed in Kirghizia and collective farmers are harvesting the first cotton crop there. War-ravaged reclamation systems are being restored in the Russian federation." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 12 September 1947)

"... cotton growers of Bukhara and Samarkand regions (of Uzbekistan) are completing the four-kilometer long dam spanning the tremendous Katta Kurgan canyon. ... 250,000 hectares of cotton plantations will be supplied five times more water than this year. 60,000 collective farmers from 8 regions of Uzbekistan have come to the banks of the Syrdarya River to complete the construction of the Farkand hydro-power station, one of the biggest in the USSR. ...the first power generating units have been assembled, (and) high tension (grid) stretches toward Tashkent. The large dam barred the flow of the Syrdarya. Only the (deviation) canal is yet to be completed." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 25 September 1947)

c. Miscellaneous:

"The machine and tractor depots of the Soviet Union have fulfilled their yearly plan. There are more than 7,500 depots of this kind in the country, hiring out tractors and other farm machinery to the collective farms at a moderate price. The Nazis destroyed all the machine and tractor stations in the areas they overran. At present 2,000 of these stations have already been restored. (Moscow, in English to North America, 18 October 1947)

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- 20 -

"950 new machine-tractor stations are to be erected during the current Five-Year Plan. 325,000 new tractors and 124,000 harvesting combines will have been built by the end of the Five-Year Plan. By 1950 the entire acreage will be plowed by tractors." (Soviet Home Service)

"During the present year the leading machine-tractor stations of the USSR will be equipped with radio stations. Over 150 machine-tractor stations already have receiving and transmitting stations permitting them to keep in touch with their sectors. The electrification department of the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR has issued thousands of sets to the machine-tractor stations. These stations will have a radius of communication of some 40 kilometers. During the present year radio communication will be introduced among another 400 machine-tractor stations." (TASS, in Russian at dictation speed to the USSR provincial press, 3 December 1947)

"Kiev--Within the current year, 211 rural electric stations have been built in the Ukraine. By switching rural power network on to industrial and urban stations, its capacity increased by 12,000 kilowatts, thus providing for the electrification of another 500 villages, collective farms and more than 40 machine-tractor stations and repair shops." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 25 September 1947)

"Moscow, August 25--New orchards occupying 27,000 hectares are laid this year on the collective farms of the USSR. More than half of this area has already been planted this spring.... For the first time, orchards will be planted on a large-scale in the northern parts of the country, in the Urals and Siberia, whose residents have never had their own fruit." (TASS, in English Morse to North America, 25 August 1947)

"Next year the aggregate cattle herd in the USSR will exceed the pre-war figure. In this connection, fodder planting is extended in many regions of Soviet Union. Kazakhstan, which ranks first in the country for stock raising, has sown to grass 1,300,000 hectares in steppes where thousands of wells, ponds, and irrigation canals have been arranged. The area under meadows in Kazakhstan will increase by three million hectares next year and by fifteen million hectares within the next five years. Some 500,000 hectares of the Barabinsk lowlands in Siberia will be reclaimed for grass planting." (TASS, in English Morse to North America)

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